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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/532,090	04/21/2005	Pierre-Yves Burgi	P70540Us0	8296
136 7590 04/30/2009 JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC 400 SEVENTH STREET N.W. SUITE 600 WASHINGTON, DC 20004			EXAMINER CHEN, WENPENG	
			ART UNIT 2624	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 04/30/2009	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/532,090

**Applicant(s)**

BURGI ET AL.

**Examiner**

Wenpeng Chen

**Art Unit**

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SG/US)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/29/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The information disclosure statement filed 12/29/2005 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) because it does not include a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of the listed reference AI (EP 1 150 250 A1) that is not in the English language. Reference AI (EP 1150 250 A1) has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered. This is a very relevant prior art. English abstract alone does not provide adequate information to for the examiner determine the patentability of the claims. Please provide an English translation for EP 1150 250 A1.

The examiner has considered all the other listed references. For EP 0 961 207 A1, the examiner relied on its US equivalent.

***Specification***

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The term "the pulse generator 12" in line 3, page 8 shall be changed to "the pulse generator 11".

Appropriate correction is required.

3. The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph within the range of 50 to 150 words. The abstract should not exceed 25 lines of text.

The abstract is objected because it exceeds 150 words.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

4. Claims 14-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the following reasons.

a. Claim 14 recites "may be delivered" in line 9. This is considered indefinite, because the feature is not absolutely.

b. There are insufficient antecedent bases for the following limitations.

-- Claim 14 recites the limitations "the output signal (SU)", "said row" and "the passage" in lines 9, 12, and 12, respectively.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 14-26 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter. The prior art fails to teach the system of Claim 14 which specifically comprises the following features in combination with other recited limitations:

-- a plurality of processing units (U1 to Un; p<sub>n</sub>) for processing measurement pulses, said processing units being arranged in one or more rows and each having an output (SOR1 to

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SORn) at which, during successive processing cycles, a measurement pulse that is processed therein is delivered to form the output signal (SU) of said system,

-- wherein a physical quantity whose spatial values (S1 to Sn) are respectively represented by **the measurement pulses (I1 to In) whose order in time is representative of those values** (as linked to the preamble); and

-- wherein each of said processing units (U1 to Un;  $p_n$ ) further includes inhibition means (BI) for inhibiting the passage toward the outputs (SOR1 to SORn) of those other units of respective measurement pulses, if those measurement pulses are ordered later in the processing cycle concerned than the pulse processed in the unit concerned.

### *Conclusion*

6. The prior art made of record in form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wenpeng Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7431. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on 571-272-7453. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300 for regular

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communications and 571-273-8300 for After Final communications. TC 2600's customer service number is 571-272-2600.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.

/Wenpeng Chen/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2624

April 30, 2009